TRENDS

6/27/88 A 3275-2

ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN RAILROADS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, June 23, 1988 -- Freight traffic on major U.S. railroads during the week ended June 18 totaled 19.2 billion ton-miles, up 4.9 percent from the 18.3 billion carried in the comparable week of 1987.

Cumulative volume for the first 24 weeks of 1988 was an estimated 456.9 billion ton-miles carried, up 8.3 percent from the comparable period of last year.

Carloadings originated in the week ended June 18 totaled 435,277, up 2.4 percent from the corresponding week of last year, and 0.1 percent below the preceding week. Compared with last year, carloadings originated were down 1.2 percent in the East, and up 6.5 percent in the West.

Compared with the corresponding week of last year, 12 of the 20 major commodity groups increased. Loadings of crushed stone, gravel and sand were up 4,441 cars (31.0 percent); motor vehicles and equipment were up 2,252 cars (11.2 percent); and metals and products showed a gain of 1,212 cars (13.4 percent). Eleven of the 20 commodity groups increased from the preceding week.

Piggyback

Piggyback traffic for the week ended June 11 totaled 111,908 trailers and/or containers, up 3.9 percent from the comparable week of 1987.

The cumulative volume of TOFC/COFC traffic for the first 23 weeks of the year was 2,481,487 trailers and/or containers, up 5.3 percent from 1987.

(more)

Following are carloadings of major railroads, by commodity groups, for the week ended 6/18/88:

	Loadings in Week ended June 18, 1988		Change from Corresponding Week 1987			Change from Preceding Week	
	Cars		Cars	Percent		Cars	Percent
Grain	33,557	D	52	0.2	I	678	2.1
Other farm products	3,722	D	2,795	42.9	D	270	6.8
Metallic ores	20,167	I	1,781	9.7	D	2,085	9.4
Coal	118,743	D	2,631	2.2	I	897	0.8
Crushed stone, gravel and sand	18,755	I	4,441	31.0	D	289	1.5
Nonmetallic minerals	10,029	I	573	6.1	D	551	4.9
Grain mill products	10,936	D	115	1.0	D	66	0.6
Food and kindred products	11,004	I	177	1.6	I	33	0.3
Primary forest products	10,248	D	547	5.1	I	218	2.2
Lumber and wood products except furniture	8,180	D	525	6.0	I	249	3.1
Pulp, paper and allied products	12,394	D	205	1.6	I	71	0.6
Chemicals and allied products	27,437	I	1,466	5.6	I	481	1.8
Petroleum products	5,370	I	308	6.1	I	81	1.5
Stone, clay and glass products	11,715	I	1,060	9.9	I	173	1.5
Coke	5,701	I	48	0.8	D	96	1.7
Metals and products	10,239	I	1,212	13.4	D	180	1.7
Motor vehicles and equipment	22,290	I	2,252	11.2	D	265	1.2
Waste and scrap materials	9,723	I	743	8.3	D	48	0.5
Forwarder and shipper association traffic	2,492	D	58	2.3	I	53	2.2
All other carloads	82,575	I	3,256	4.1	I	515	0.6
Total Cars Loaded	435,277	I	10,389	2.4	D	371	0.1
Corresponding week of 1987	424,888 r						

	1988	1987	% Change
Total Cars Loaded (24 weeks)	10,112,138	9,537,308	I 6.0
Estimated revenue ton-miles (in billions):			
23 weeks ended June 11	437.7	403.6	I 8.4
Week ended June 18	19.2	18.3	I 4.9
24 Weeks cumulative	456.9	421.9	I 8.3

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